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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/796,671

03/09/2004

Keith Edward Foley

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3017

23280

7590

12/17/2007

DAVIDSON, DAVIDSON & KAPPEL, LLC
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EXAMINER

COLILLA, DANIEL JAMES

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2854

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

12/17/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

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Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/796,671

Applicant(s)

FOLEY ET AL.

Examiner

Daniel J. Colilla

Art Unit

2854

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 17 September 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9, 11-17, 19 and 20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 20 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9, 11-15 and 19 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 16 and 17 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 17 September 2007 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-9, 13-15 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Platteter *et al.* (US 5,629,775) as outlined in the Office action mailed on 6/13/2007.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claim 11 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Platteter *et al.* (US 5,629,775), as applied to claim 8 above, and further in view of Okano (US 2001/0011219) as outlined in the Office action mailed on 6/13/2007.
5. Claim 12 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Platteter *et al.* (US 5,629,775) in view of Goers *et al.* (US 2002/0096942) as outlined in the Office action mailed on 6/13/2007.

Allowable Subject Matter

6. Claims 16-18 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Response to Arguments

7. Applicant's arguments filed 9/17/2007 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive of any error in the above rejection.

With respect to applicant's arguments that Platteter *et al.* does not teach detecting the type of a device. The examiner invites applicant's attention to column 7, lines 8-11, in which Platteter *et al.* discloses:

However, if a device can be both a feeding and a finishing device, the situation could be handled by having a switch on the device that would select which power-up ID the device would use.

Clearly the device is being identified by type, such as feeding or finishing device at power-up.

Additionally, in column 6, lines 52-55, Platteter *et al.* discloses that:

Autoconfiguration, in accordance with the present invention, is defined as the ability of the print engine to determine the capabilities and positions of all devices that are connected to it. Autoconfiguration relieves the operator of the task of describing to the print engine the configuration and positions of each of the document feeder or finisher devices and this capability is necessary to provide a more reliable means of determining the configuration of the devices.

"The ability of the print engine to determine the capabilities and positions of all devices that are connected to it" is the equivalent of knowing the type. For example a machine capable of stapling a document is enough to indicate that it is a stapler.

In response to applicant's argument that Okano is nonanalogous art, it has been held that a prior art reference must either be in the field of applicant's endeavor or, if not, then be

reasonably pertinent to the particular problem with which the applicant was concerned, in order to be relied upon as a basis for rejection of the claimed invention. See *In re Oetiker*, 977 F.2d 1443, 24 USPQ2d 1443 (Fed. Cir. 1992). In this case, applicant's claim is directed to structure for storing data. One of ordinary skill in the art would thus be inclined to look to technologies that store information as Okano teaches. Teachings of the manner in which data is stored is applicable to all fields that require data storage.

With respect to applicant's arguments regarding claim 12, Goers is not relied upon for teaching a first device connected to a controller; Platteter *et al.* teaches this, instead Goers is relied upon to show a teaching of connecting electrical components with a plug. This is a very basic expedient that is well-known and would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art.

In view of applicant's arguments filed on 9/17/2007, *the prior art rejection of claims 16-17 has been withdrawn*. Specifically, as indicated by applicant, there is no evidence that Pin 264 is regarded as an input power pin.

8. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Nakayama is cited to show another example of a graphics machine that identifies devices connected to it (paragraph 102). Inglese *et al.* is cited to show another example of a graphics machine that automatically identifies attached devices (abstract). Webster *et al.* is cited to show a graphics machine which has a controller that identifies modules in any geometrical combination (col. 1, lines 51-58).

9. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).


A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the mailing date of this final action.

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Daniel J. Colilla whose telephone number is 571-272-2157. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 7:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Judy Nguyen can be reached at 571-272-2258. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

December 8, 2007


Daniel J. Colilla
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2854